

August 6, 1997

**REPORT OF VETERANS RECEIVING NURSING HOME CARE UNDER
VA CONTRACT AND IN VA NURSING HOMES (RCS 20-0789)**

1. **PURPOSE:** The purpose of this Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Directive is to develop a list of veterans receiving nursing home care in Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) nursing homes and under VA contract in Contract (Community) Nursing Homes (CNH); and provide instructions for forwarding these lists to the VA regional office (VARO) with jurisdiction over the geographical area served by the medical center.

2. **BACKGROUND:** Since the potential exists for nursing home admissions or transfers to be missed, Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) annually reviews VBA expenditures associated with these patients.

3. **POLICY:** Data provided by VHA will be used by VBA to identify overpayments. VBA will determine whether the veteran is receiving compensation or pension, whether the benefits are subject to reduction or discontinuance due to nursing home care, and whether the reduction or discontinuance is correct.

4. **ACTION**

a. Each VA medical center will:

(1) Prepare a consolidated list of all veterans under its jurisdiction who are receiving contract nursing home (CNH) care or residing in VA nursing homes as of 12:00 a.m. on October 1, 1997. The list will contain data for each veteran as follows:

(a) Veteran's name.

(b) VA file number (or Social Security Number if a VA file number is not available).

(c) Date of most recent placement for each veteran.

(d) Name, address and telephone number of the nursing home where the veteran is receiving care.

(2) Generate a list of veterans who are in the facility's nursing home care unit by using the information collected at 11:59 p.m. on September 30, 1997.

(3) Generate a list of veterans under the jurisdiction of the medical center who are in contract and/or community nursing homes (CNH) at VA expense by using the following procedure:

(a) Print a list of veterans using Decentralized Hospital Computer (DHCP)-Fee. Go to CNH outputs and use option CNH Census Report to print the list. The CNH Census Report generates an output of all active CNH inpatients, as determined by the Authorization FROM and TO dates in Section 5 of VA Form 10-7078, Authorization and Invoice for Medical and Hospital Services, for a specified census date.

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(b) After accessing the CNH Census Report option you should encounter the prompt, "Display Address for Vendors? No/". A "YES" response to this prompt should provide the required information for each veteran receiving contract nursing home care under the auspices of a particular VA facility.

(c) If DHCP-Fee is unavailable, use manual CNH roster or IFCAP reports to identify patients in CNH facilities.

(4) Combine the lists generated under items 4 a (2) & (3) and submit the resulting consolidated list as a report entitled "Report of VA NHCU Inpatients." Reports are to be forwarded, over the signature of the facility Director, no later than October 15, 1997. Forward them to the Director of the VARO(s) with jurisdiction over the geographic area which serves the medical center. The report must:

(a) Contain all the required information.

(b) Include the name and telephone number of a contact person at the medical center.

(c) Be legible.

(5) Refer questions concerning the study and/or the content of this Directive to VHA Headquarters Health Administration Service, at (202) 273-8301.

b. Any facility without VA NHCU or CNH patients is required to submit a negative report to the appropriate VARO(s). It will state that the facility has no patients in VA NHCU or CNH facilities as of 12:00 a.m. on October 1, 1997.

c. The VBA Regional Office Adjudication Division will review the reported data and prepare a one-time report of the review and forward it to the Director, Compensation and Pension Service (213A). This one-time report will be forwarded to VHA in a timely manner.

5. **REFERENCE:** None.

6. **FOLLOW-UP RESPONSIBILITY:** VHA Headquarters Health Administration Service (161A) is responsible for the content of this Directive.

7. **RESCISSIONS:** VHA Directive 10-95-109 is rescinded. This Directive will expire November 3, 1997.

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